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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR  | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/675,266      | 09/30/2003  | Kenneth Joseph Burger | ROC920030304US1     | 6175             |

7590 03/20/2007  
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EXAMINER

BELL, CORY C

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

2164

| SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE | MAIL DATE  | DELIVERY MODE |
|--|------------|---------------|
| 3 MONTHS                               | 03/20/2007 | PAPER         |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

|                              |                 |               |  |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No. | Applicant(s)  |  |
|                              | 10/675,266      | BURGER ET AL. |  |
|                              | Examiner        | Art Unit      |  |
|                              | Cory C. Bell    | 2164          |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-11, 14-16 and 18-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-11, 14-16, and 18-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

  
**SAM RIMELL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 4-11, 14-16, and 18-20 have been examined.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 4-11, 14-16, and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes in view of the Open Directory Project.

4. **Claim 1** is rejected as Barnes Teaches:

Requesting a plurality of records from the one of the one or more information suppliers;(Col 10 lines 22-23, Col 4 lines 55-56)

selecting a subset of a plurality of characteristics from a plurality of records based on a model norm(Figure 5);

preparing a report with the subset(Figure 6, col 9 lines 39-46)

ordering the subset of the plurality of characteristics in the report based on a

relative significance of the characteristics in the model norm. wherein the relative

significance specifies a different order of the characteristics than the records'. (Col 10 lines 42-

51, Col 2 lines 43-46 shows that the order the rows, or characteristics, order as a record inside

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*a database is arbitrary, therefore it is inherent that the defined order is different from an arbitrary order.)*

ordering the plurality of records in the report based on a sort rule in the model

norm(Figure 5)

receiving a favored norm from one of the plurality of information providers of a selected record

in the report(Col 9 lines 63-67, Col 10 line 56 – Col 11 line 2, Col 10 lines 24-29 expressly

*discloses the report templates being stored at the information provider)*

selecting a second subset of the plurality of characteristics from the plurality of

Records. wherein the favored norm specifies the second subset(Figure 8) and

creating a second report with the second subset(Figure 9).

However Barnes fails to expressly disclose:

registering a plurality of information suppliers and a plurality of area of interest associated with

the plurality of respective information suppliers

finding one of the plurality of areas of interest associated with one of the plurality of information

suppliers that matches a field of interest requested by a client

This limitations however were well known in the art at the time of the invention as the claim a directory type search engine, and thus are taught in the provided pages from the Open Directory Project Web Page. Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include these features as it allows user to quickly search for desired data.

5. **Claim 4** is rejected for the following reasons:

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4. The method of claim 1, wherein the preparing the report further comprises: preparing extra characteristics not in the subset in a least-significant column of the report as a sequence of name-value pairs(*Barnes, Col 10 lines 42-51, the ability to drill into individual records, retrieving the record*).

6. **Claim 5** is rejected for the following reasons:

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the preparing extra characteristics further comprises: ordering the name-value pairs based on a relative significance in a favored norm(*Figure 8*).

7. **Claim 6** is rejected for the following reasons:

See Claims 1 rejection.

8. **Claim 7** is rejected for the following reasons:

See Claim 4 rejection

9. **Claim 8** is rejected for the following reasons:

See Claim 5 rejection

10. **Claim 10** is rejected for the following reasons:

See Claim 1 rejection

11. **Claim 11** is rejected for the following reasons:

See Claim 1 rejection.

12. **Claim 14** is rejected for the following reasons:

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See Claim 5 rejection.

13. **Claim 15** is rejected for the following reasons:

See Figure 8 “Group By”.

14. **Claim 16** is rejected for the following reasons:

See Claim 1 rejection.

15. **Claim 18** is rejected for the following reasons:

See Claim 5 and 1 rejections.

16. **Claim 19** is rejected for the following reasons:

See Claim 15 rejection.

17. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes in view of the Open Directory Project and US 5603025, known hereafter as Tabb.

18. **Claim 9** is rejected for the following reasons:

19. Barnes teaches the claims upon which claim 9 is dependent, as well as the ability for users to be able to drill down into more data, but did not expressly disclose there being an indicator that there is more information on the record. However, this is taught in Col 20 lines 28-47 of Tabb. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in art to include this feature as it allows users to quickly identify paths to more data.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes in further view of the Open directory Project and “Default Value” known hereafter as Pearson.

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20. **Claim 20** is rejected for the following reasons:

Barnes teaches the claim upon which claim 20 is dependant, but fails to teach a default value being defined in the model norm, this is taught in Pearson however. Which teaches defining default values for views(or models) of database tables. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to define default values in the normalization for a view, or model, as it make the “default value visible to (the) user in data entry forms”.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 12/22/2006 fail to comply with 37 CFR 1.111(b) because they amount to a general allegation that the claims define a patentable invention without specifically pointing out how the language of the claims patentably distinguishes them from the references.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cory C. Bell whose telephone number is (571) 272 2736. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272 4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**SAM RIMELL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**